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distribution of the resident species, the times of arrival and departure of the migrants, and the localities to which the summer visitants resort to breed.

It is hardly necessary to add, that each contribution to the forthcoming report would be accredited to its proper source. In order to be available for the object in view, manuscripts should be received not later than June next.—*Address* DR. E. COUES, U. S. A., *Fort Randall, Dakota Territory.*

GEOLOGY.

ON THE TUSK OF *LOXOLOPHODON CORNUTUS*.—Professor Marsh asserts that I have reversed the positions of the tusks of this species, placing that of the left side on the right, etc. This statement is not true, as I have carefully distinguished the sides in my description (*Short-footed Ungulata*, etc., p. 10). In my plate 2d the inner side is not represented as the outer, as the inner surfaces of attrition are omitted, and the external represented. Like his other charges this one results from a misapprehension. Having seen a photograph in which, for the assistance of the artist, the left tusk was taken on the right side, he at once concludes that my lithograph represents it in the same position.—E. D. COPE.

ANTHROPOLOGY.

EXISTENCE OF MAN IN THE MIOCENE.—I have received a letter from Mr. Edmund Calvert, in which he informs me that his brother, Mr. Frank Calvert, has recently discovered, near the Dardanelles, what he regards as conclusive evidence of the existence of man during the Miocene period. Mr. Calvert had previously sent me some drawings of bones and shells from the strata in question, which Mr. Busk and Mr. Gwyn Jeffreys were good enough to examine for me. He has now met with a fragment of a bone, probably belonging either to the *Dinotherium* or a *Mastodon*, on the convex side of which is engraved a representation of a horned quadruped, "with arched neck, lozenge-shaped chest, long body, straight fore legs and broad feet." There are also, he says, traces of seven or eight other figures, which, however, are nearly obliterated. He informs me that in the same stratum he has also found a flint flake, and several bones broken as if for the extraction of marrow.

This discovery would not only prove the existence of man in Miocene times, but of man who had already made some progress, at least, in art. Mr. Calvert assures me that he feels no doubt whatever as to the geological age of the stratum from which these specimens were obtained.

Of course I am not in a position myself to express any opinion on the subject; but I am sure that the statements of so competent an observer as Mr. Calvert will interest your readers.—SIR JOHN LUBBOCK, in "*Nature*."

MICROSCOPY.

AMPHIPLEURA PELLUCIDA IN DOTS.—A $\frac{1}{50}$ objective was made by Tolles to my order and finished on the 12th of March, 1873. The angle of aperture as invoiced by Mr. Stodder is 165° . From my measurements I think the objective is correctly named by the maker. At the extreme open point it is a good $\frac{1}{40}$ dry. The screw-collar has twelve divisions: by turning it eight divisions it is adjusted for uncovered wet, and four divisions remain to adjust for cover for immersion work. It works through covering glass of about $\frac{1}{20}$ of an inch; but it is better to use thinner glass, or mica, to enable the observer to focus through specimens.

With lamplight and the $\frac{1}{50}$ the resolution of *Amphipleura pellucida* is better than I have before seen. Using ordinary daylight *Vibriones*, *Bacteria*, etc., are well defined, especially when a Kelner eye-piece is used as a condenser.

With sunlight and the ammonia-sulphate of copper cell, *Surirella gemma* yields longitudinal striæ, and, as the direction of the light is changed, rows of "hemispherical bosses" as described by Dr. Woodward.

With the same illumination specimens of *Amphipleura pellucida*, mounted dry, by Norman, were resolved and counted with perfect ease and remarkable plainness, the striæ being still distinctly visible with No. 3 eye-piece, draw-tube extended six inches and power upwards of 10,000 times. It is with hesitation that I remark further that the $\frac{1}{50}$ has resolved the lines of *Amphipleura pellucida* into rows of dots, for the "beaded" structure of the easier test, *Surirella gemma*, is still doubted by some experienced microscopists. But facts are stubborn things, and the facts are that with Wenham's parabola as an illuminator the dots are seen, and with either the paraboloid or the Amici prism longitudinal lines much